

School for Feeble-Minded, Faribault

G. C. Hanna	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Superintendent
D. E. McBroom, M. D.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Senior Physician
Ethel R. Beede, M. D.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Junior Physician
A. L. Haynes, M. D.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Junior Physician
Chris. Barnholdt	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Steward

Institution opened in 1879

As a separate institution in 1882

Capacity of institution -----	1,950
Area of grounds, acres -----	1,145
Acreage under cultivation -----	576
Value of lands and buildings -----	\$1,986,259.00
Value of personal property -----	454,122.00
Expenditures for year ended June 30, 1926:	
Current expense -----	\$477,389.86
Repairs and replacements -----	35,612.70
Permanent improvements -----	62,815.28
Miscellaneous -----	332.80
Gross per capita cost, current expense -----	247.86
Net per capita cost, current expense -----	199.95
Number of officers and employees -----	322

To the State Board of Control:

I submit herewith the report of the Minnesota School for Feeble-Minded for the biennial period ended June 30, 1926.

POPULATION

The average population for the year ended June 30, 1926, was 1,926. As the average number on vacation runs about 30, the actual population of the institution has been 1,956, which is about the present capacity.

COLONY FOR EPILEPTICS, CAMBRIDGE

On June 1, 1925, the first unit of the Colony for Epileptics at Cambridge was opened. The patients occupying Cottage 2, boys' epileptic group, were transferred to the new building at Cambridge, making room for the admission of about 50 feeble-minded cases. Emphasis during the next biennial period will be placed on the new institution, with the idea of relieving the pressure for admission here by providing room for feeble-minded cases through the transfer of epileptic patients to Cambridge as buildings are completed there. The requests for appropriations for this institution will not include any new buildings.

MEDICAL SERVICE

Three physicians constitute the resident medical staff, and there have been no changes in the personnel during the biennial period. A visiting specialist in diseases of the eye, ear, nose, and throat, does all surgery coming within his field, including a large number of tonsillectomies. The legislature of 1925 made an appropriation for an X-ray machine, and this has been installed at the hospital. The dental room has been improved with new equipment. The quarters formerly occupied by nurses have been rearranged and equipped as isolation wards, affording more space and better isolation for contagious diseases. The nurses were provided with quarters on the third floor of the main building. This floor had been abandoned for the use of inmates, and in the south wing was made over as nurses' quarters.

EDUCATIONAL WORK

The institution maintains a literary and industrial school department, with a principal and 26 teachers. Teachable children under the age of 16 years are admitted to both the literary and industrial classes, and many are admitted to the industrial classes who are unable to carry on any work in formal school studies. Children who have the intelligence to advance beyond the sixth grade are not to be considered feeble-minded and would not classify for this institution. No work, therefore, is offered in the literary department beyond the sixth grade. Out of the total population of 1,950 about 400 are enrolled in the educational department. Half of these are in classes below the second grade. Only a very few attempt work as high as the sixth grade. The school includes in its staff a teacher skilled in giving mental tests. All children are tested on admission, and routine examinations of the whole population are made from time to time. Terman's revision of the Binet-Simon test is used. The population falls in the three classes, almost equal in numbers, of idiots, imbeciles, and morons. There are two libraries, one for the children and one for employes. The school department has charge of amusements for the whole institution.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

Religious services of a non-denominational character are conducted every Sunday in the chapel. Children of sufficient mentality to understand the services attend them. Simple exercises are occasionally conducted, by ministers who volunteer their services, in the outlying buildings housing inmates of a lower grade of mentality. Religious exercises for the Catholic children are conducted from time to time by priests from the local Catholic churches.

THE NATURE OF FEEBLE-MINDEDNESS

Feeble-mindedness is not a disease in the sense that there is some discoverable physical ailment that will yield to treatment. It is, therefore, not

curable. It is a condition that is hereditary in the great majority of cases. However, the neurosis of the offspring need not follow that of the parent, and in some instances one or more generations may be skipped. The offspring of feeble-minded parents may be insane or epileptic; that of epileptic parents, insane or feeble-minded; and that of insane parents, epileptic or feeble-minded. Feeble-mindedness, insanity and epilepsy may follow each other in succeeding generations. Fairly high-grade feeble-minded persons who "marry and do well in the community" are likely to have children who are idiots or imbeciles. Prostitution, crime and pauperism are usually associated with some type of mental deficiency. Recognizing the fact that heredity is the chief and all-important factor in mental defect, institutions of this kind must face the responsibility for future ills to society when they release inmates with procreative power intact simply because they may do well in the community from the standpoint of keeping out of trouble themselves, or to make room for the large numbers always waiting to get in. It must be remembered that the chief function of an institution for the feeble-minded, aside from the care and custody of its population, is to teach and train the teachable part of its inmates to whatever extent their natural ability allows. Life will then be more livable for them, whether they remain in the institution or are released. If they are released, it is true that the training they have had in an institution will help them to adjust themselves to community life and responsibility, but it will not have made them fundamentally different, and their degree of feeble-mindedness will be practically what it was when they were admitted to the institution. Their progeny will be of the same kind and quality that it would have been had they not entered the institution. The attempt to supervise the feeble-minded to the point of preventing procreation over a period of 25 to 35 years, covering a female's childbearing age, is a task that has never been satisfactorily performed in any community. Marriage of the feeble-minded might be prevented, but it is not. The feeble-minded female is an easy victim of any vicious person who is willing to take advantage of her mental helplessness. Thousands of illegitimacy cases involve mothers of this type. The offspring go to fill orphanages and homes for abandoned and neglected children in their infancy, and institutions for the feeble-minded, the epileptic, the insane, and for paupers, criminals, and other misfits, in their adult life.

STERILIZATION

The legislature of 1925 enacted a law permitting, under certain safeguards, the sterilization of the feeble-minded and the insane. After complying with all legal technicalities, work was started in accordance with the provisions of this law in the spring of 1926. Up to July 1, 1926, 21 cases had been operated. All made speedy and successful recovery, and many of

these patients have been released to live in normal society. Those inmates who are able to carry on and "do well" in society may be given the chance to do so without detriment after the possibility of procreation is removed.

BUILDINGS AND IMPROVEMENTS

The legislature of 1923 made an appropriation of \$205,000.00 for three cottages for inmates. One of these cottages was completed within the previous biennial period and the other two in this biennial period. One of these cottages, with a capacity of 60, is for males; and the other, with a capacity of 40, for females. Both are fine fireproof structures well suited to their purposes.

The general kitchen, which was erected when the institution had a population of not much more than half its present number, had long been outgrown. An appropriation made by the 1925 legislature provided for additions and changes that have been made. This improvement gives the additional room needed, and includes also a new floor throughout, an additional oven, increased cold storage capacity, and more cooking equipment.

The business offices, which were small, inadequate, and poorly arranged, have been enlarged and rearranged. A new switchboard with a hundred numbers replaces a telephone system installed a quarter of a century ago.

Some basements that were not finished when the buildings were built have been finished and will be used for industrial and other purposes. One of these, a large room in the Women's Building, provides space for the dressmaking and tailoring departments, releasing the space formerly used for school purposes.

All coal has been unloaded from the cars and handled by manual labor. The legislature of 1925 made an appropriation of \$7,500.00 for a coal conveyor. This has been erected, and will be used for unloading, storing, and conveying the coal from the storage pile to the hoppers above the boilers. Since the institution uses approximately 12,000 tons of coal a year, the great saving in time and labor made possible by this improvement will be evident.

A watchman's clock and fire alarm system has been installed throughout the institution. This system insures better supervision of the ward and other buildings at night, and should greatly decrease the fire hazard.

The frame cottage for inmates known as Springdale has been improved with a new asbestos roof and a terrazzo floor in the main reception room and halls. The shingle roof was a constant fire hazard on account of sparks falling from the chimney, and as it had to be replaced, the additional expense for a fireproof roof seemed to be justified.

Spring floods in 1926 washed out a section of the grade on the road-way between the main institution and the farm colonies. A bridge was erected at this point in order to allow the water to pass through more freely in case of another flood. This road is very valuable to the institution, as it cuts off half the distance between the main institution and the colonies.

It is the policy of the management to keep up the repairs of the institution. As there are more than a hundred buildings and structures, this work requires a steady force of carpenters, plasterers, tinnerns, painters, plumbers, and laborers. During the biennial period, the interior of the Boy's Custodial group was painted throughout, in addition to interior painting in many other parts of the institution and to several exterior painting jobs. A great amount of new plumbing has been installed in the older buildings. In many of these buildings, as in Cottages 1 and 2, Skinner Hall division, it was necessary to tear out the floors of the bath and toilet rooms from the basement up and replace them with steel, concrete, and terrazzo construction. Such construction is a great improvement over the wooden construction, which always rots out under tile floors.

A five-room frame cottage for employes is under construction and will help to relieve the need for more room for employes. The building is located next to the steward's cottage.

The stone crusher, which was located south of the Boys' Epileptic Colony, has been moved to a new location near the assistant engineer's cottage, where there is a fine ledge of rock. The necessary roads and approaches have been built to the new crusher, and it will supply the institution with all crushed rock required.

A 99-year lease has been negotiated with the Rock Island Railroad Company on a small tract of land south of the company's right of way and near the main institution grounds. This tract is rich in a good grade of gravel, which is always in demand in road building and construction work.

NEEDS OF THE INSTITUTION

Appropriations are needed as follows: Additional boiler, \$15,000; retubing five boilers, \$15,000; soot blower for economizer, \$1,000; new boiler arches, \$2,500; chain skids on stokers, and repairs, \$5,000; high tension cable to pump house, \$2,000; renewing plumbing, \$15,000; changes in heating system, \$15,000; two vacuum pumps, \$4,000; air compressor, \$2,500; deep well pump, \$1,200; improvements to hospital, \$7,700; hay shed, \$3,000; granary and farm tool shed, \$3,600; automobile fire truck, \$4,000; Ford truck, \$500; farm equipment, \$2,000; grounds and fencing, \$3,000; furniture and equipment, \$5,000; library, school and musical equipment, \$2,000; laundry, shop and industrial equipment, \$2,500; and repairs and betterments, \$100,000.

CONCLUSION

The superintendent thanks the State Board of Control as a board and the individual members thereof for the many kindnesses and generous support accorded him during the past biennial period. The sympathetic interest of the Board in the School for Feeble-Minded, its inmates and employes, and their coöperation in every move to uphold and improve its usefulness have been appreciated. In an institution having a population of about 2,000 inmates, more than 300 employes, more than a hundred buildings and structures, and between eleven and twelve hundred acres of land, the organization naturally is departmentalized, and many of the burdens and responsibilities fall on heads of departments, who also should share in the credit, if any be due the management. The superintendent acknowledges the value of the services rendered by all the employes in the organization, and appreciates their assistance. While it is not possible to mention each one by name in a report of this kind, special acknowledgment is made to the medical staff and to the heads of departments.

Respectfully submitted,

G. C. HANNA,

Superintendent.

Colony for Epileptics, Cambridge

G. C. Hanna - - - - - Acting Superintendent
 R. F. Gregory - - - - - Steward

Institution opened in 1925

Capacity of institution -----	61
Capacity of building in course of construction -----	130
Area of grounds, acres -----	323
Acreage under cultivation -----	129
Value of lands and buildings -----	\$125,464.00
Value of personal property -----	17,970.00
Expenditures for year ended June 30, 1926:	
Current expense -----	\$18,985.06
Repairs -----	14.00
Permanent improvements -----	14,048.38
Gross per capita cost, current expense -----	339.02
Net per capita cost, current expense -----	277.53
Number of officers and employees -----	9

To the State Board of Control:

I submit herewith the report of the Minnesota Colony for Epileptics for the biennial period ended June 30, 1926.

OPENING OF INSTITUTION

The first unit, a fireproof structure of brick, concrete, and steel, was finished in April, 1925. This is a self-contained building for men, having its own kitchen, laundry, pump, and well, heating plant, refrigerator, and everything necessary for the life of the patients there. The floors are terrazzo throughout. In May a small force was sent from the School for Feeble-Minded to uncrate the furnishings and prepare the building for occupancy. Patients were transferred in small groups by automobile beginning June 1. At the end of the month a total of 45 had been transferred. Other patients were transferred from the Faribault institution, which, with some new admissions, brought the population up to a total of 61.

PERSONNEL

A total force of only nine persons has been required to conduct the institution as organized at present. This does not include the superintendent or physician, who are part-time employees. Two of the nine persons employed devote their entire time to the garden, farm and dairy. Several of the employees were transferred from the force of the School for Feeble-

Minded, and have remained with the Cambridge institution since its opening.

R. F. Gregory, supervisor and steward, had been storekeeper at the School for Feeble-Minded and had had many years' experience in all phases of institutional work. The superintendent is particularly indebted to him for the intelligent and painstaking service rendered in the new position.

Dr. L. H. Hedenstrom, of Cambridge, has charge of the medical work. His interest in the patients and zeal for their welfare have been greatly appreciated by the superintendent.

A. H. Anderson had been employed to take charge of the farming operations before the opening of the institution and has continued in that position. Under his management the farm has given a good account of itself.

FARM

With the opening of the institution, the ordinary farming operations had to be extended to gardening and dairying. A herd of a dozen Holstein cows was bought and furnishes an adequate supply of fresh milk for the institution. In 1925 the farm produced a crop of potatoes far in excess of requirements, and the surplus was sold at a good price. The outlook for farm and garden crops this year is good.

EMERGENCY HOSPITAL

A front room on the second floor of the building now in use has been set aside as an emergency hospital. It contains three beds. So far there has been very little acute illness. One case of pneumonia developed, and this required the services of a trained nurse, who was transferred from the hospital of the School for Feeble-Minded, to attend the patient during his illness. Two patients who the physician thought might become chronic hospital cases were transferred to the School for Feeble-Minded.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

Religious services are regularly conducted by the different ministers of Cambridge churches. These services are non-denominational in character, and attendance is voluntary.

DEATHS

Only one death has occurred since the institution opened. The remains were buried in a new cemetery on the grounds of the institution.

BOOKS AND PERIODICALS

A number of the patients are able to read, so that a small library has been established and daily newspapers and other periodicals are taken. Miriam E. Carey, librarian for the State Board of Control, selected the

books and looks after this phase of the work. As only adult patients are received at present, no formal school work is offered.

BUILDINGS AND IMPROVEMENTS

An underground potato storage with garage above has been constructed. The grove about this building and between the first unit and the river was cleared of underbrush and dead timber for park purposes. A tract of about 15 acres of stump land was cleared with the labor of patients and prepared for seeding to alfalfa. The farm house, barn and other small buildings which were on the farm when purchased, were put in repair and painted. Farm fences have been rebuilt or replaced with new.

Under an appropriation of \$255,000.00 a contract was awarded for erecting the main building of the epileptic group. On July 1, 1926, this structure was well under way and should be easily completed within the time specified by the contract, February 1, 1927. The building will be fireproof and will contain the administrative offices, quarters for the superintendent and other employes, a hospital adequate for the whole institution when finished, wards for epileptic children male and female, school and industrial rooms, a hall, recreation rooms, kitchen, dining rooms, pantry, cold storage and power plant. The central part will be three stories, and the right and left wing two stories, with basement. The central wing at the rear drops to one story for the kitchen and power plant.

Under plans prepared by A. R. Nichols, landscape architect, and under his direct supervision, a start has been made at building roadways and beautifying the grounds. The main roadway connects the institution with Cambridge and State Highway No. 5. Grading, sodding and seeding of lawns in the vicinity of the first building constructed add much to appearances. The patients are given the liberty of the grounds, and during the summer spend much time out of doors.

NEEDS OF THE INSTITUTION

Appropriations are needed as follows: Grounds and fencing, \$4,000; four cottages and equipment, \$300,000; additions to farm buildings, \$6,000; water works and sewerage disposal, \$25,000; emergency water connections to Cambridge, \$5,000; farm and dairy equipment, \$2,000; industrial school and musical equipment, \$4,000; equipment for administrative center group, \$30,000; and repairs and betterments, \$6,000.

CONCLUSION

The superintendent takes this occasion to express his appreciation of the work of C. H. Johnston, state architect, who planned the first unit and the main building now under construction. The building under construction, embracing as it does so many and so varied uses, offered architectural difficulties that seemed at times almost insurmountable. Mr. Johnston

and his capable force worked patiently for many months on the plans and specifications, and succeeded in designing a building at a most reasonable cost that promises to be adequate and satisfactory for its many purposes.

The superintendent thanks the State Board of Control for its sympathetic coöperation in all matters pertaining to the building, opening, and managing of the institution.

Respectfully submitted,

G. C. HANNA,

Acting Superintendent.

Institutions for Feeble-Minded and Epileptics

Classification	Year Ended June 30, 1926			Year Ended June 30, 1925		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
POPULATION						
In institution at beginning of year----	965	967	1,932	897	923	1,820
Admitted:						
First admissions -----	110	100	210	130	141	271
Readmissions -----	16	11	27	19	12	31
Received by transfer -----	5	3	8	3	1	4
Returned:						
From summer vacation -----	122	87	209	104	87	191
From escape -----	4	6	10	24	---	24
Total under care -----	1,222	1,174	2,396	1,177	1,184	2,361
Discharged:						
As normal -----	2	---	2	---	---	---
As unimproved -----	20	33	53	10	33	43
As insane -----	3	6	9	11	15	26
Died -----	50	44	94	46	56	102
Paroled:						
For summer vacation -----	147	118	265	113	93	206
Escaped -----	18	9	27	32	---	32
Transferred to other institutions -----	4	---	4	---	---	---
In institution at end of year -----	978	964	1,942	965	767	1,732
Average population -----	996	986	1,982	926	933	1,859
PERSONS ADMITTED						
Feeble-minded:						
School -----	48	25	73	48	32	80
Custodial -----	44	71	115	76	118	194
Farm colonies -----	2	---	2	5	---	5
Epileptic:						
Custodial -----	21	6	27	9	1	10
Others -----	16	12	28	14	3	17
Total admissions -----	131	114	245	152	164	306
AGE GROUP						
Under 5 years -----	7	7	14	7	10	17
5 to 9 years -----	25	16	41	39	21	60
10 to 14 years -----	35	25	60	47	42	89
15 to 19 years -----	24	22	46	32	29	61
20 to 24 years -----	18	15	33	8	24	32
25 to 29 years -----	5	5	10	8	9	17
30 to 34 years -----	4	12	16	2	3	5
35 to 39 years -----	9	3	12	---	5	5
40 to 44 years -----	1	4	5	2	2	4
45 to 49 years -----	---	3	3	2	3	5
50 to 54 years -----	---	1	1	1	2	3
55 to 59 years -----	1	---	1	---	1	1
60 years and over -----	2	1	3	2	---	2
Age unknown -----	---	---	---	2	3	5
Total admissions -----	131	114	245	152	154	306
MARITAL CONDITION						
Single -----	126	102	228	151	140	291
Married -----	4	5	9	1	13	14
Widowed -----	1	4	5	---	---	---
Separated -----	---	1	1	---	---	---
Divorced -----	---	2	2	---	1	1
Total admissions -----	131	114	245	152	154	306
NATIVITY						
United States -----	119	106	225	131	135	266
Canada (Includes Newfoundland) -----	2	---	2	1	3	4
France -----	---	---	---	1	1	2
Germany -----	2	---	2	2	2	4
Italy -----	1	---	1	1	---	1
Norway -----	---	1	1	3	1	4

Institutions for Feeble-Minded and Epileptics—Concluded

Classification	Year Ended June 30, 1926			Year Ended June 30, 1925		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
NATIVITY—Concluded						
Poland	—	—	—	1	—	1
Sweden	4	1	5	—	—	—
Switzerland	—	—	—	1	—	1
Unascertained	3	6	9	—	—	—
Total admissions	131	114	245	152	154	306
PARENTAGE						
Native parentage	57	38	95	65	64	129
Mixed parentage	25	19	44	26	32	58
Foreign parentage	37	38	75	44	36	80
Parentage unknown	12	19	31	17	22	39
Total admissions	131	114	245	152	154	306
PHYSICAL DEFECTS						
Physically defective:	—	—	—	—	—	—
Blind	—	2	2	4	—	4
Crippled, maimed or deformed	4	10	14	10	5	15
Paralytic	5	—	5	9	6	15
Epileptic	26	15	41	19	18	37
Two or more defects	7	3	10	9	22	31
Dumb	4	1	5	6	6	12
Not physically defective	85	83	168	95	97	192
Total admissions	131	114	245	152	154	306
DISPOSITION OF INMATES DISCHARGED						
To custody of parents	16	10	26	21	13	34
To custody of other relatives	3	11	14	6	8	14
To custody of self	2	—	2	6	—	6
To custody of others	4	18	22	65	27	92
Total discharged	25	39	64	98	48	146
AGE AT DEATH						
Under 5 years	4	6	10	1	2	3
5 to 9 years	7	3	10	2	6	8
10 to 14 years	5	8	13	8	6	14
15 to 19 years	8	8	16	10	10	20
20 to 24 years	10	9	19	9	15	24
25 to 29 years	2	2	4	1	1	2
30 to 34 years	4	4	8	4	3	7
35 to 39 years	3	4	7	4	1	5
40 to 44 years	2	—	2	3	4	7
45 to 49 years	—	1	1	2	3	5
50 to 54 years	2	1	3	—	3	3
55 to 59 years	2	1	3	1	1	2
60 years and over	—	—	—	—	1	1
Age unknown	1	—	1	—	—	—
Total	50	44	94	46	56	102
CAUSE OF DEATH						
Typhoid fever	—	—	—	—	2	2
Erysipelas	1	—	1	—	—	—
Tuberculosis of the lungs	5	14	19	2	9	11
Other forms of tuberculosis	3	2	5	1	2	3
Cancer and other malignant tumors	4	—	4	1	—	1
Diabetes	1	—	1	—	—	—
Cerebral hemorrhage and softening	1	—	1	—	—	—
Epilepsy	9	8	17	13	19	32
Other diseases of the nervous system	—	2	2	1	2	3
Organic diseases of the heart	—	5	5	1	6	7
Pneumonia	11	4	15	17	10	27
Diarrhea and enteritis	4	3	7	—	—	—
Nephritis and Bright's disease	—	—	—	—	1	1
All other causes	11	6	17	10	5	15
Total	50	44	94	46	56	102